

CAEOE Northern Council Meeting Minutes

Walden West

November 6th, 2010

6:45 PM

Agenda

1. Welcome and Overview

- Scooby welcomed all and introductions were made by all in attendance, where they were from and whether or not they were part of the council.
- Scooby explained the set up for CAEOE with regards to both the board and councils, their roles and how conferences are shared/alternated.
- Scooby explained how becoming a member of a council worked and what the roles were. He mentioned that it is the council members that bring things to the board. Council members need to:
 1. Be nominated and approved by a vote of the current members of the council.
 2. Participate in at least half of the conference calls.

- A question was asked as to what the function of AEOE was.
 1. Ryan discussed that the main function was organizing the conferences, for professional development and networking.
 2. It was also mentioned that it is a volunteer run organization and that it has potential to be whatever people make it/want it to be. Currently there is a push for more advocacy.
- It was brought up that there will be a first paid position (administrator assistant?).

2. Conference issues

- Evaluations will be done this year using SurveyMonkey (an online evaluation) and will hopefully bring in more feedback, in the past it has been about 30-40% (I think).
 1. It was asked if presenters will get feedback.
 2. It was brought up that it is not as immediate as the old method of filling out slips immediately after participating in a workshop.
 3. It was suggested that maybe there could be a pole about what people want to have offered as workshop options.
 4. It was asked if there was any discussion of going back to Yosemite for the fall conference.
 1. The answer provided was that an indoor, more accessible location would make the conference open to a more diverse audience. And that AEOE strives to be more inclusive and does not want to isolate any groups through location.
 5. A different area for quiet and loud camping was suggested.
 1. This will be made available at the spring conference (as it usually is), and will be kept in mind for next fall.

 6. Outreach to local colleges was brought up.
 1. An idea was to maybe have a 'training' at the spring conference on how to do a little outreach so that there could be more regional outreach without having a single person do a tremendous amount of travel.
 1. This could be something that the Marketing coordinator could do or oversee.

Spring conference

- The location will be Westminster Woods.
- The keynote speaker will be Steve Van Meter, author of *Spaceship Earth*, he will also be leading a workshop.
- The Entertainment Committee has narrowed the field to some great acts but has not finalized anything.
- The workshop coordinator will be Big Brown Bat, there may be need to strand coordinators.

At this point the floor was given to Hoppy .

- Hoppy congratulated the council and board for doing the hard work that needs to be done.
- Expressed his very deep, vested interest, and mentioned that he periodically ‘raided’ the board minutes.
- Mentioned that there was discussion of AEOE expanding and that he thought that it was a good idea.
- Mentioned that through this expansion, what is currently AEOE (taken to mean residential outdoor/ environmental education) would become a subcommittee of the larger organization.
- He wants to create a committee called NNLOL (No Naturalist Left Out of the Loop), with regards to any discussion of change or expansion of the organization.
- Expressed that it was important that all meeting minutes become published.
 1. Kathy brought up that some things need to be kept private, such as nominations for awards.
 2. Hoppy agreed but stressed that anything regarding discussion of expansion or change needs to be published.
- Concern that money belonging to (the current) AEOE would be used, by the board, for the New AEOE, and that it should only be the money generate by the New AEOE membership that is spent on the New AEOE.
- Hoppy read from some old minutes about the creation of a task force, (*called the internal readiness something-or-other*).
- Hoppy also commented that he had had things rejected for the newsletter and that he felt there was room in the newsletter to voice opposing options.
- A question from the floor (Bloom) was asked as to why wouldn’t members have access to minutes and would members vote on the proposed change.
- BBB brought up that one potential benefit for expansion would be that AEOE could have more political power and leverage in influencing legislation

Ryan was given an opportunity to speak.

- He discussed that it is in the organization’s bylaws that minutes must be made available and transparent. He discussed the recent change of the website, and that during the process things might have gotten missed. He said that if things were not posted it was a mistake. He discussed how the organization is volunteer run, and that the members have other jobs and lives and that yes, sometimes things get delayed.
- Michael spoke about the history of the AEOE and some of the changes over the years.
- It was mentioned that it was Hoppy who first made contact with NAAEE (North American Association for Environmental Education).
 1. The context was that part of the reason for proposed expansion is that as the state affiliate of NAAEE.
- Ryan spoke about the idea of expansion.
 1. So far there is a plan to assemble a task force, or a panel to assess the feasibility of expansion
 2. If a task force is formed, they would make a presentation at the spring conference to the members, and take comments and questions from members at that time.
 3. Hoppy expressed that he would like to be on any task force or panel created.
 4. Kathy mentioned that ‘anyone will have the same opportunity to participate [on the task force] as anyone else.’
 5. Hoppy also expressed that he would like to join the Northern Council.
 6. Hoppy also said that he felt that ‘the board should do what they want to do but they should let people know’.

Scooby, Michael, and Big Brown Bat all spoke to the great amount of love and passion Hoppy has towards the organization.

Scooby motioned to adjourn at 8:13 p.m.

Minutes taken by Reed Schneider

